

Ch. 6

18 February 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director/Research and Reports
Assistant Director/Current Intelligence

[Redacted]

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SUBJECT : Fleming Inquiry re Strategic Materials

1. During the discussion of the Progress Report on Latin America, at the Council meeting on 17 February, Mr. Fleming of OCB raised a question concerning alleged purchases of strategic materials in Latin America by the Soviet Bloc, especially Peruvian copper. According to him these purchases had been used not only for their own sake, but to create corners and disrupt prices to the detriment of our own purchasing activities.

2. DCI gained the impression that we were asked to go ahead right away with a compilation of the facts on this subject. However, the NSC staff has the impression the ball went initially to OCB. This should be clarified by Monday, so that word may come direct or through our man on the OCB Working Group on Latin America. In any case, this is an alerting message, so that the working people can start getting materials together. So far, no special urgency has been indicated.

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WILLIAM P. BURDY
Assistant to DD/I (NSC)

ON FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW